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| 09/530,145 | 04/24/2000 | TOSHIO YAMAWAKI | 37395/DBP | 5367 |

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EXAMINER

BOAKYE, ALEXANDER O

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2666

DATE MAILED: 06/27/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/530,145

Applicant(s)

YAMAWAKI, TOSHIO

Examiner

Alexander Boakye

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 April 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. Regarding claims 10, 11 and 15, the phrase "such as" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(d).

In claim 10 (lines 5), the phrase "such as" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention.

The same problem of claim 10 appears in claim 11 (line 5) and claim 15 (line 5) respectively.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 10-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Saito et al.(US Patent # 6,523.696).

Regarding claims 10 and 11, Saito discloses a gateway device (Fig. 1 @ 3 ; column 12, line 7) which interconnects two communication buses (Fig. 1 @ 11 and 12 ; column 12, line 9) implemented with different communication methods, and in which information to be communicated is made up of a header field containing information such as an address necessary for communication and message instruction message, to be used at receiving side after the communication based on the header field is completed , the gateway device (column 12, line 7) comprising:

Judging means (Fig. 44 @ 2208 ; column 43, lines 14-15) for judging, based on contents of the message field , whether or not the information received from one communication bus is to information (column 43, lines 13- 20) that should be transmitted to the other communication bus (column 43, lines 13- 20) ; and filtering means (Fig. 44 @ 2208; column 43, lines 13-14) for transmitting the received information to the other communication bus when the received information is judged by the judging means to be the information that should be transmitted (column 43, lines 13-30) .

Regarding claim 12, Saito discloses a gateway device (Fig. 1 @ 3; column 12, line 7) which interconnects two communication buses (Fig. 1 @ 11 and 12 ; column 12, line 9)the lines implemented with different communication methods, and in which information to be communicated is made up of a header field containing information such as an address necessary for communication and message field to be used at

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receiving side after the communication based on the header field is completed , the gateway device (Fig. 1 @ 3 column 12, line 7) comprising:

Judging means (Fig. 44 @ 2208 ; column 43, lines 14-15) for judging, whether or not the information received from one communication bus is to information that should be transmitted to the other communication bus (column 43, lines 13-20) ; storage means (the packet filter table corresponds to the claimed storage means) for storing the information that is judged by the judging means to be the information that should be transmitted (column 43, lines 21-30); and filtering means (Fig. 44 @ 2208 ; column 43, lines 13-14) for transmitting the received information to the other communication bus when the received information is judged by the judging means to be the information that should be transmitted (column 43, lines 13-27).

Regarding claim 13, Saito discloses: means for transmitting the information stored in the storage means (column 43, lines 22- 27) to the communication bus in accordance with a request made from the communication bus.

Regarding claim 14, Saito teaches that the gateway device (Fig. 1 @ 3) interconnects two communication buses (Fig. 1 @ 11 and 12 ; column 12, line 9) in an automobile.

Regarding claim 15, Saito discloses: Judging means (Fig. 44 @ 2208 ; column 43, lines 13-16) for judging, based on contents of the message field , whether or not the information received from one communication bus is to information that should be transmitted to the other communication bus (column 43, lines 13-20); and filtering means (Fig. 44 @ 2208 ; column 43, lines 13-16) for transmitting the received

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information to the other communication bus when the received information is judged by the judging means to be the information that should be transmitted (column 43, lines 13-20).

Regarding claim 16, Saito discloses: Judging, based on the command contained in the message field of the communication data, whether or not the information received from one communication bus is the information that should be transmitted to the other communication bus (Column 16, lines 15-25); and performing filtering to transmit the received information to the other communication bus when in the step (a) the received information is judged to be the information that should be transmitted (column 43, lines 13-20).

3. Claims 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kawano et al. (US Patent # 5,933,605).

Regarding claims 17 and 18, Kawano discloses: (a) judging whether or not information received from one communication bus is information that should be transmitted to the other communication bus (column 7, lines 48-50); (b) storing the information (column 8, lines 13-18) that is judged in the step (a) to be the information that should be transmitted ; and (c) performing filtering (column 11, lines 28-34) whereby the information stored in the step (b) is compared with newly received information which is of the same kind as the stored information and is judged in the step (a) to be the information that should be transmitted (column 12, lines 4-15 ;column 22, line 57-column 23, lines 1-14) and , when their contents differ, the received information

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is transmitted to the other communication bus while, at the same time, storing the received information in the step (b).

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander Boakye whose telephone number is (703) 308-9554. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:00am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rao Seema, can be reached on (703) 308-5463. The fax number is (703) 872-9314. Any inquiry of a general or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750.

Alexander Boakye

Patent Examiner

AB

6/19/03



DANG TON
PRIMARY EXAMINER